

Quiet Stay Likely at West Point

Details Withheld To Protect Privacy

Star Wire Services

The freed American hostages will fly home Sunday to the United States, State Department officials in Wiesbaden, West Germany, announced today.

State Department spokesman Jack Cannon said they will fly to a "private location" where they will be reunited with their families.

Dr. Jerome Korcak, medical director of the State Department and leader of the recovery team in Wiesbaden, said the 52 freed Americans are expected to return together.

Earlier, the Pentagon was quoted as saying the 52 would be lodged at the U.S. Military Academy at West Point, N.Y. on their return. They were reportedly to stay there for up to two days for private reunions with their families.

The families have been learning in bits and pieces what life was like during the captivity in Iran, and much of what they have discovered has distressed and angered them. Telephone conversations with the men and women in Wiesbaden continued to include accounts of ill treatment by their Iranian captors, family members said yesterday.

Penelope Laingen, wife of L. Bruce Laingen, the former embassy charge d'affaires, said she had been told by her husband of "humiliating" treatment and the threat by his Iranian captors to "blow his brains out."

Patsy Lee said her husband, Gary, described two mock executions and his months in solitary confinement. "Gary didn't see sunlight or daylight from June 1980 until he met the Algerians," she said.

Richard Kalp amended his previous contention that his brother Malcolm had spent 150 days in soli-

See HOSTAGES, A-6

Iranian Official Denies Torture of Hostages

Negotiator Accuses U.S. of Brainwashing

Iran yesterday vehemently denied it tortured the former hostages, accused them of being "ungrateful" and claimed U.S. officials are brainwashing the 52 Americans as a pretext for breaking the agreements signed with Tehran.

"Considering the mentality of this type of comfort-seeking diplomats, there is no doubt that they found the duration of their detention not desirable," Behzad Nabavi, Iran's chief hostage negotiator, said in an interview with the Paris news agency, monitored in London.

Nabavi's denial of the torture charges was the first official Iranian reply to statements made by the released hostages after their arrival in Wiesbaden, West Germany, which ended 444 days in Iranian captivity.

Nabavi said the United States was "bringing up such baseless claims" of torture in order to revoke the release settlement and claimed the Americans "confessed" they were well treated.

Senate to Hold Inquiry Into Iran's Brutality

By Roberta Hornig
Washington Star Staff Writer

Senate Majority Leader Howard Baker said yesterday the Senate will conduct a full inquiry "into the brutal treatment of the American hostages in Iran."

But Baker told a news conference he believes the hearings should be put off for the time being because "the wound is too fresh. The wound will be even deeper as we learn more of the atrocities" perpetrated on the American diplomats who were held hostage for 444 days, he said.

"I think we should wait a little for our wounds to heal a little before we pass judgment on our policy toward Iran or the nature of the agreement" which led to the freeing of the hostages on Tuesday, Baker said.

He said the hearings — which will be conducted by the Senate Foreign Relations Committee — will have two purposes:

"The first will be to help determine American policy toward Iran in the future. The second will be to try to determine how the United States and other nations can prevent such incidents of international terrorism."

Sen. Dennis DeConcini, D-Ariz., urged President Reagan "to state clearly that the United States is not, legally or morally bound to the agreement," that gained freedom for the hostages since it is an "established matter of criminal law that agreements made under the duress of blackmail are not valid."

Sen. Jesse Helms, R-N.C., said he agreed with DeConcini.

"I would say our national

"We expected this kind of libel on behalf of the American officials who have been enemies of the Islamic revolution of Iran," Nabavi said.

Nabavi said former President Carter and his colleagues who were defeated in the diplomatic stage of America were deceiving Americans for political advantage. "All torture claims of the released hostages emanate from brainwashing, carried out during their forced stay in Wiesbaden," Nabavi said. "The fact is their stay in Wiesbaden is designed to prevent their direct contact with the people and to prevent the disclosure of truth before Washington could make its own disclosures."

He said America's step was completely predictable.

"We have available video tapes of various interviews with the released hostages in which they all confessed that they have been well treated and humanely and had no complaints." The tapes would contradict them.

"We knew that some of the released hostages were ungrateful and do not understand the meaning of kindness, since they were trained for the affairs of the Foreign Ministry of the U.S.," Nabavi said.

Nabavi also thanked the militants who seized the U.S. Embassy in Tehran Nov. 4, 1979, which triggered the crisis.

The released Americans accused the militants of carrying out much of the abuse.

"We must express our thanks to them (the militants), because, despite their profound hatred of U.S. policy and its operators in Iran, they treated the cause of their nation's misfortune so magnanimously," Nabavi said.

United Press International



Returnee Bruce Laingen of Bethesda gives victory sign at Wiesbaden.

Hostages Will Fly Home Sunday, State Dept. Says

Continued From A-1

After 444 days of confinement, Kalp said that in fact his brother said he spent 374 days confined alone in a cell because he had tried to escape.

And relatives said other former hostages described the small indignities of daily life as political prisoners: their watches being taken and their reading material censored, their clothes falling to shreds and disintegrating in dirt and their trips to the bathroom accompanied by armed guards.

At the same time, some family members began to vent their anger at the Iranians and their enforced separation from their loved ones.

Mrs. Laingen, who has been a Foreign Service wife for three decades, said of her own ordeal: "So much of my life has been sitting on the front lawn, watching Khataks dances or Japanese operas, upholding the honor of the U.S., and never a moment of peace and tranquility. I'm tired of it. I'm not burned up, I'm burned out."

On Tuesday night Mrs. Laingen spoke to her husband on the telephone. He told her that on Jan. 3, after being held for more than a year with two other hostages in a large room in the Iranian Foreign Ministry furnished with Persian rugs and crystal chandeliers, he was moved to a smaller room in a prison, to a cell whose walls were covered with the words, "Angela, Angela, my love."

his eyes so he couldn't see anything," she said. "They slammed him back onto the chair — he used the word 'slammed.'"

Mrs. Lee said her husband told her she was certain he was about to die. "He said 'I was dead,'" she recalled, adding that he said it passed through his mind that he hoped his wife and 11-year-old daughter, Dana, could understand that his life was being sacrificed for the country.

"Three times there was a click of rifles," she said her husband told her.

Mrs. Lee said her husband had told her that a second "execution" was held in the embassy basement in February 1980. "He said 'I could feel the bullets in my back. I didn't wet my pants. I wanted to be proud. I wanted to stand straight and tall,'" Mrs. Lee said her husband told her.

Over and over family members repeated the same refrain yesterday that despite their healthy appearance and high spirits, the hostages had not been treated as well as their families had thought.

Hazel Albin, mother of Robert O. Blucker, said her son told her "they shoved him around a lot." Susan Cooke, mother of Donald Cooke, vice consul at the embassy, said her son reported his captors were continually "haranguing him with their propaganda" and that stories were cut out of magazines he read. Leland Holland's mother, Clara, said her son

of treating them — with any degree of purpose."

"It would not bother me one bit if the president tells them to take a long walk on a short pier," he said.

Senate Minority Whip Alan Cranston, D-Calif., agreed with Baker's call for a Senate inquiry but said he believes it should be broader in scope.

"I don't see how we can avoid going into the background — into why so many Iranians are so deeply hostile to the United States," said Cranston, a Foreign Relations Committee member.

He said he believed the inquiry would have to go back to the relations between the United States and Iran in the 1950s when, with the help from the CIA, the Shah of Iran was restored to power after being overthrown.

Baker, however, said he did not believe the hearings should go into past U.S.-Iranian history. "I don't think we should dig up the past," he said, adding:

"What I want to know is how we deal with a country like Iran which treated Americans so brutally."

Baker predicted that "the flood of indignation is going to grow as Americans hear the hostages' stories and said the Senate inquiry would take place "in the near future."

Baker also reported that he supports Reagan and Secretary of State Alexander M. Haig Jr. in their decision to study every aspect of the hostage agreement with Iran.

He said he did not mean to imply that he believes this country should renege on its agreement with Iran. "I do not wish to welsh on any commitment by the United States," he said, adding that he only wants to be certain — as the administration does — of what provisions the agreement contains.

On the House side, Rep. Gerald Solomon, R-N.Y., said the United States should refuse to abide by the agreement until it is assured the World Court and the Iranian government will cooperate in bringing "those terrorists to justice."

House Republican leader Bob Michel, R-Ill., said, "The nations of the world should combine in action that would damage the terrorist regime in Iran."

He asked President Reagan to declare Iran an "outlaw" nation and take whatever actions are appropriate to show that "no one harms our citizens with impunity."

Laingen, a security officer, also is one of the other hostages, is married to a woman named Angela.

Laingen told his wife that a first attempt to move him and his roommates, Michael Howland, a security officer, and Victor L. Tomseth, the senior political officer, had occurred about two weeks earlier.

The three men were being led to a van when Howland saw the pillowcases and the ropes that the Iranians had brought to bind them and kicked the "chief militant" in the groin, Laingen told his wife.

They were then shoved back upstairs, Laingen said, while one of the militants held a 45-caliber pistol to his head and threatened to "blow his brains out." He told his wife that it was the first time in more than 30 years of diplomatic service that a pistol had been held to his head.

When he was finally transferred, Laingen said, he was told to behave if he wanted to eat. During his stay at the prison, he was blindfolded whenever he went to the bathroom, he said.

"It was just humiliating," Laingen told his wife.

Cory Lee's wife, Patsy, confirmed earlier accounts by Richard J. Queen, a hostage released last year, when it was discovered that he had multiple sclerosis, that the hostages were put before mock firing squads. Mrs. Lee said her husband, a general service officer at the embassy, told her that he had been involved in two such incidents.

"They trussed him to a chair, tied him up tightly, and put cotton under

his head," Mrs. Lee said. "Her husband C. Kennedy, Jr., said his husband had told her that the hostages were abused even when freedom was near. "They were pelted with mud on one of the bus trips by some of those charming little Iranians," Mrs. Kennedy said.

Andrew H. Appel, a lawyer and friend of the Gillette family, said after a two-and-a-half-hour telephone call with Duane Gillette, "It became obvious to all of us that his treatment was not nearly as cruel as he had been leading us to believe in his letters. He said he was not tortured, but it was no picnic. For the first two or three months he was not allowed to speak to anybody."

Marjorie Moore, the wife of Bert C. Moore, the administrative consul, said of conversations with her husband, "He was never beaten or tortured. He was threatened with a gun to the head. And he said 'go ahead and shoot, you bastards.' But they didn't get the combination of the safe they wanted."

In addition, Mrs. Moore told of her husband's complaints about drawing kitchen patrol and being unable to bathe. She said that he washed the pans after the Iranian had cooked. "They used so much grease to cook with," she said. "My husband told me, 'and all they had to wash the pans was cold water.'

Mrs. Moore said her husband told her that his infrequent showers were usually with cold water. "The longest he went without bathing for 40 days," said Mrs. Moore.